Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The thermally sensitive recording medium of ~~claim 4~~claim 13, wherein the colloidal silica possessing a chain structure ~~is consisting~~consists of spherical colloidal silica particles of an average particle size of 10-50nm and a metal oxide containing silica which ~~bond~~bonds said spherical colloidal silica ~~particles,~~particles and D1/D2, which is the ratio of particle size D1, in nm and measured by a dynamic light scattering method, and average particle size of spherical colloidal silica D2, in nm and measured by nitrogen absorbing method, is 3 or more, wherein ~~said~~ D1 is 50-500nm and said spherical colloidal silica particles are linked in one plane ~~like a rosary~~.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The thermally sensitive recording medium of ~~claim 6~~claim 14, wherein the acrylic polymer further comprises acrylonitrile as a monomer component.

8. (Currently Amended) The thermally sensitive recording medium of ~~claim 6~~claim 14, wherein the acrylic polymer further comprises styrene as a monomer component.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The thermally sensitive recording medium of ~~claim 9~~claim 15, wherein said acrylic polymer further contains acrylonitrile.

11. (Currently Amended) The thermally sensitive recording medium of ~~claim 9~~claim 15, wherein the acrylic polymer further contains styrene as a monomer component.

12. (New) A thermally sensitive recording medium comprising a thermally sensitive color developing layer formed on a substrate, the thermally sensitive color developing layer comprising a colorless or pale-colored basic leuco dye, a color developing agent, an acrylic polymer obtained by copolymerizing an alkyl acrylate, alkyl methacrylate, vinyl silane and styrene as monomer components and a colloidal silica possessing a chain structure.

13. (New) A thermally sensitive recording medium comprising a thermally sensitive color developing layer formed on a substrate, the thermally sensitive color developing layer comprising a colorless or pale-colored basic leuco dye, a color developing agent, an acrylic polymer and a colloidal silica possessing a chain structure.

14. (New) A thermally sensitive recording medium comprising a thermally sensitive color developing layer formed on a substrate, the thermally sensitive color developing layer comprising a colorless or pale-colored basic leuco dye, a color developing agent, an acrylic polymer obtained by copolymerizing an alkyl acrylate, alkyl methacrylate and vinylsilane as monomer components and a colloidal silica possessing a chain structure.

15. (New) A thermally sensitive recording medium comprising a thermally sensitive color developing layer formed on a substrate, the thermally sensitive color developing layer

comprising a colorless or pale-colored basic leuco dye, a color developing agent, an acrylic polymer obtained by copolymerizing an alkyl acrylate, alkyl methacrylate and vinylsilane as monomer components and a colloidal silica possessing a chain structure and consisting of spherical colloidal silica particles of an average particle size of 10-50 nm and a metal oxide containing silica which bonds said spherical colloidal silica particles and D1/D2, which is the ratio of particle size D1, in nm and measured by a dynamic light scattering method, and average particle size of spherical colloidal silica D2, in nm and measured by nitrogen absorbing method, is 3 or more, wherein D1 is 50-500nm and said spherical colloidal silica particles are linked in one plane.